

I'm writing in opposition to H.R.4026 and to the National Association of Broadcasters petition 04-160. I don't understand why Congress or the FCC would attempt to restrict the flow of helpful information such as weather and other local broadcast information to the detriment of the consumer and for the benefit of a limited number of local AM/FM broadcast stations. Why do our laws and regulations need to arbitrarily restrict information to certain frequencies of radio bands?

Restricting that information to local over-air broadcast stations creates an unnecessary monopoly of information. The local stations have the free use of our airwaves and should not have the right to restrict the flow of that information to only their bandwidth of the radio spectrum.

In practice today, local stations already practice the principle that they would have you restrict. Non-geographic information (national news, syndicated columnists, national sports outlets) share the same bandwidth as the local news, weather, sports and other information on the AM & FM bands. Why should digital audio radio satellite services not be able to offer the same information?

Protect the free flow of information. And protect the free market right of all citizens to choose the media and delivery method free from government interference. I urge you to not restrict the kinds of programming that the digital audio radio satellite services can offer.

Respectfully,

Craig Jankowsky